



International Organisations

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United Nations: The United Nations Organisation is an association of states which have pledged themselves to maintain international peace and security and cooperate in solving international political, economic, social, cultural and humanitarian problems towards achieving this end. The United Nations officially came into existence on Oct. 24, 1945, with the deposit of the requisite number of ratifications of the Charter, the constituting instrument of the UN with the US department of State. United Nations Day is celebrated on 24 Oct. each year. The headquarters of the UNO is in New York.

Objects:

- To maintain international peace and security.
- To develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples.
- To cooperate in solving international economic, social, cultural and humanitarian problems and in promoting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.
- To be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in attaining these common ends.

Flag : White UN Emblem (two bent olive branches open at the top and in between them in world map) on a light blue background.

Official Languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

United Nations Organs

- United Nations General Assembly - oversee the budget of the United Nations and appoint the non-permanent members to the Security Council.
- UN Secretariat - Supports the other UN bodies administratively (for example, in the organization of conferences, the writing of reports and studies and the preparation of the budget)
- International Court of Justice - Decides disputes between states that recognize its jurisdiction; Issues legal opinions
- UN Economic and Social Council- co-operation between states as regards economic and social matters.
- United Nations Security Council : -
 - ✓ Charged with the maintenance of international peace and security.
 - ✓ Only UN body with the authority to issue binding resolutions to member states
 - ✓ Establishment of peacekeeping operations, the establishment of international sanctions, and the authorization of military action through Security Council resolutions
 - ✓ Five permanent members of the Security Council - France, China, Russia, UK and US

G4 nations comprising Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan are four countries which support each other's bids for permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council.

- First - Most populous country of the world in coming future
- Second - Largest democracy
- Third - 10th largest economy in the world
- Fourth - Army is the third-largest globally
- Fifth - The third-largest globally for sending troops to more than 40 UN peacekeeping efforts.

International Monetary Fund (IMF): It was established on December 27, 1945 at the Brettonwoods Conference, but it started its operations on March 1, 1947.

Objectives

According to 'Articles of Agreement' of the IMF, its main objectives are as follows:

- To promote international monetary co-operation.
- To ensure balanced international trade.
- To ensure exchange rate stability.
- To grant economic assistance to member countries for eliminating the adverse imbalance in balance of payment

Constitution, Membership and Capital of IMF: The main source of IMF resources is the quotas allotted to member countries. Earlier, quotas and the assistance provided were denominated in US dollars, now they are expressed in SDRs (Special Drawing Rights) which is also known as Paper Gold.

India and IMF: IMF has played an important role in Indian economy. IMF has provided economic assistance from time to time to India and has also provided appropriate consultancy in determination of various policies in the country. India is a founder-member of IMF. The Finance Minister is ex-officio Governor on the IMF Board of Governors.

International Bank For Reconstruction And Development (IBRD): The IBRD and its associates as a group are known as the World Bank, set up to rehabilitate the World War II-damaged economies. In 1945, it was decided to concentrate on reconstructing these war affected economies. Besides, it was also planned to develop under-developed economies in a planned way. IBRD was established in December 1945 with the IMF on the basis of the recommendation of the Brettonwoods Conference. That is the reason why IMF and IBRD are called 'Bretton Wood Twins'. IBRD started functioning in June 1946.

Objectives

- To provide long-run capital to member countries for economic reconstruction and development
- To provide guarantee on private loans or capital investment.
- If private capital is not available even after providing guarantee, then IBRD provides loans for productive activities on considerate conditions.
- To provide guarantee for loans granted to small and large units and other projects of member countries.
- To ensure the implementation of development projects so as to bring about a smooth transfer from a wartime to a peace economy.

IMF VS World Bank: Since both these were together formed at the Brettonwoods Conference, they are referred to as "Brettonwoods Twins". Both the institutions were established to promote international economic co-operation but a basic difference is found in the nature of economic assistance given by these two institutions. The World Bank provides long-term loans for promoting balanced economic development and finances developmental projects, while the IMF provides short-term loans to member countries for eliminating BOP disequilibrium. Both these institutions are complementary to each other.

Membership: Generally every member country of the IMF automatically becomes the member of World Bank. Similarly, any country which quits IMF is automatically expelled from the World Bank's membership. But under a certain provision a country leaving the membership of IMF can continue its membership with World Bank if 75% members of their Bank give their vote in its favour

BRICS is the title of an association of leading emerging economies, arising out of the inclusion of South Africa into the BRIC group in 2010. As of 2012, the group's five members are **Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa**. With the possible exception of Russia, the BRICS members are all developing or newly industrialised countries, but they are distinguished by their large, fast-growing economies and significant influence on regional and global affairs :-

BRICS STRENGTH :-

- 40% of the world population
- 20% world GDP
- US\$4 trillion in combined foreign reserves
- 18 percent of the world economy

Summit Participants Date Host country Host leader Location :-

1st BRIC June 16, 2009 Russia Dmitry Medvedev Yekaterinburg
2nd BRIC April 16, 2010 Brazil Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva Brasília
3rd BRICS April 14, 2011 China Hu Jintao Sanya
4th BRICS March 29, 2012 India Manmohan Singh New Delhi
5th BRICS 2013 South Africa Jacob Zuma Durban

6th BRICS 2014 Brazil Dilma Rousseff Fortaleza :-

- New Development Bank (NDB)
- Reserve currency pool worth an additional US\$100 billion
- Headquarters - Shanghai
- First president will be from India
- Bank's first regional office will be in Johannesburg
- Inaugural chairman of the board of governors will be from Russia

World Trade Organisation (WTO): The Uruguay Round of GATT gave birth to the World Trade Organization. The members of GATT signed an agreement of Uruguay Round in April 1994 in Marrakesh (Morocco) for establishing a new organization named WTO. It was officially constituted on January 1, 1995, which replaced GATT as an effective informal organization. Contrary to GATT, WTO is a permanent organization and has international status like IMF and IBRD, but it is not an agency of the UNO

Objectives of WTO :-

- To improve standards of living of people in the member countries.
- To ensure full employment and broad increase in effective demand.
- To enlarge production and trade of goods.

The above three objectives were also included in the GATT agreement, but the WTO also included some other objectives which are:

- To enlarge production and trade of services.
- To ensure optimum utilization of world resources
- To protect environment

Functions of WTO:-

- To provide facilities for implementation, administration and operation of multilateral and bilateral agreements of the world trade.
- To provide a platform a member countries to decide future strategies related to trade and tariff.
- To administer the rules and processes related to dispute settlement.
- To implement rules and provisions related to trade policy review mechanism.
- To assist IMF and IBRD for establishing coherence in universal economic policy determination
- To ensure the optimum use of world resources

Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)

Established in — September 1960

Headquarters — Vienna (Austria)

Member States — 12 (Algeria, Angola, Ecuador, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela)

Official Language – English

OPEC's Objective and Mission: OPEC's objective is to coordinate and unify petroleum policies among

Member Countries, in order to secure fair and stable prices for petroleum producers; an efficient, economic and regular supply of petroleum to consuming nations; and a fair return on capital to those investing in the industry. In accordance with its Statute, the mission of the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is to coordinate and unify the petroleum policies of its Member Countries and ensure the stabilization of oil markets in order to secure an efficient, economic and regular supply of petroleum to consumers, a steady income to producers and a fair return on capital for those investing in the petroleum industry.

Member States: The Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) was founded in Baghdad, Iraq, with the signing of an agreement in September 1960 by five countries namely Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela. They were to become the Founder Members of the Organisation.

These countries were later joined by Qatar (1961), Indonesia (1962), Libya (1962), the United Arab Emirates (1967), Algeria (1969), Nigeria (1971), Ecuador (1973), Gabon (1975) and Angola (2007). From December 1992 until October 2007, Ecuador suspended its membership. Gabon terminated its membership in 1995. Indonesia suspended its membership effective January 2009. Currently, the Organisation has a total of 12 Member Countries

World Health Organisation (WHO):**Established in/on** — April 7, 1948**Headquarters** — Geneva (Switzerland)**Official Languages** — Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish**Member States** — 193 Member States**WHO Agenda**

WHO operates in an increasingly complex and rapidly changing landscape. The boundaries of public health action have become blurred, extending into other sectors that influence health opportunities and outcomes. WHO responds to these challenges using a six-point agenda. The six points address two health objectives, two strategic needs, and two operational approaches. The overall performance of WHO will be measured by the impact of its work on women's health and health in Africa.

The Role of WHO in Public Health :-

WHO fulfils its objectives through its core functions :

- Providing leadership on matters critical to health and engaging in partnerships where joint action is needed
- Shaping the research agenda and stimulating the generation, translation and dissemination of valuable knowledge
- Setting norms and standards and promoting and monitoring their implementation; Articulating ethical and evidence-based policy options;
- Providing technical support, catalysing change, and building sustainable institutional capacity; and Monitoring the health situation and assessing health trends.

Asian Development Bank (ADB): The ADB was established in Dec. 1966 on the recommendations of ECAFE (Economic Commission for Asia and Far East). The aim of this Bank was to promote economic development in Asian countries. The head office of the Bank is located at Manila, Philippines.

South Asian Association For Regional Co-Operation (SAARC): India, Maldives, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan and Nepal constituted an organization known as SAARC, on the recommendations of Dhaka Conference in 1985. Its headquarters has been established at Kathmandu. Afghanistan was made a member in 2005. A conference of heads of the countries is held every year but the conferences have been generally delayed for one reason or the other.

The eighteenth summit of 'South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation' (SAARC) was held in Kathmandu, the capital of Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal during 26–27 November 2014. The theme of the summit was Deeper Integration for Peace and Prosperity, focused on enhancing connectivity between the member states for easier transit-transport across the region.

Association Of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN): ASEAN is a union of South-East Asian Nations.

Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand constituted this association in 1967. Brunei also joined the ASEAN in 1984. At present, 9 countries are the members of ASEAN. The object of ASEAN is to promote economic co-operation in South-East Asia and also to ensure economic stability in the region. Its headquarters is in Jakarta but a Secretary of ASEAN lives in the capital of each member country. The post of General Secretary of ASEAN is rotated among each member country alphabetically, after every two years. In 1996, ASEAN gave advisory status or full-dialogue partner status to India. Besides India, China and Russia also got this status. India cannot join the ASEAN as a member due to its geographical location.

However, India entered into a Free Trade Agreement with this grouping on Jan 1, 2010.

G-8: The Group of Eight is a forum, created by France in 1975, for governments of six countries in the world: France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States. In 1976, Canada joined the group (thus creating the G7). In becoming the G8, the group added Russia in 1997. In addition, the European Union is represented within the G8, but cannot host or chair. Ukraine crisis: G7 jointly condemns Russia.

The 40th G8 summit was due to be held in Russia in 2014. The meeting was planned for June 4–5, 2014 at the Black Sea resort of Sochi. However, the other seven countries decided on March 24 that a summit would be held without Russia, in Brussels, Belgium.[3] It was held in Brussels on June 4–5. The 41st G7 summit will be held in Schloss Elmau, Bavaria, Germany on June 7–8, 2015

G – 20

Group Of Twenty Finance Ministers And Central Bank Governors: The Group of Twenty Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (G-20) is a group of finance ministers and central bank governors from 20 economies: 19 countries plus the European single currency. Their heads of government or heads of state have also periodically conferred at summits since their initial meeting in 2008. Collectively, the G20 economies comprise 85% of global gross national product, 80% of world trade (including EU intratrade) and two-thirds of the world population.

The G-20 is a forum for cooperation and consultation on matters pertaining to the international financial system. It studies, reviews, and promotes discussion (among key industrial and emerging market countries) of policy issues pertaining to the promotion of international financial stability, and seeks to address issues that go beyond the responsibilities of any one organization. With the G-20 growing in stature since the 2008 Washington summit, its leaders announced at their Pittsburgh summit on September 25, 2009, that the group will replace the G8 as the main economic council of wealthy nations.

The heads of the G-20 nations have met semi-annually at G-20 summits since 2008. The 2014 G20 Australia summit was the ninth meeting of the G20 heads of government.^[1] It was held in Brisbane, the capital city of Queensland, Australia, on 15–16 November 2014